Growing Problem of Unemployment

3596. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether with economy registering a regular growth of 5 to 6 per cent every year, joblessness has out-stepped all economic growth;

(b) if so, the compartive figures of economic growth and growth in employment and unemployment year after, over the last five years, indicating the number of unemployed and employment generation both in rural and urban sector during these years; and

(c) the main reason for the growing unemployment and the concrete steps proposed to be taken to deal with the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Planning Commission on the basis of latest comprehensive surveys available on Employment and Unemploymnet conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1987-88 (43rd round) and 1993-94 (50th round), the rate of unemployment in the country was as follows:

Unemployment rate*

(as per Usual *Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS)*

1987-88	2.62
1993-94	1.90

*percentage to Labour Force.

Since, the unemployment rate has reduced during 1987—93, joblessness has not out stepped all economic growth.

Average annual growth rate (%) of employed persons as per Usual Principal and Subsidary Status (UPSS) during 1998-88 and 1993-94 is 2.43% This implies a postives employment growth.

Eradication of Unemployment

3597. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ""Berozgari Hatao" is the main slogan cc the Natiolal Agenda of Government;

(b) if so, how Government propose to attain this goal;

(c) whether any time frame has been prescribed for this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The call "Berozgari Hatao' was included in the National Agenda for Governance from BJP and allied parties published before the 12th Lok Sabha.

(b) to (d) To promote employment generation, Government has already set up a ""Task Force on Employment Opportunities." The terms of referernce of the Task Force are (i) to examine the existing and unemployment situation in the country (ii) to suggest strategies of employment generation for achieving the target of providing employment, opportunities to 10 crore people over the next ten years. This implies strategies for providing employment oppotunities to to one hrore people per year on an average and (iii) to consider any other matter related with or incidental to the above terms of Reference. The work of the Task Force is in progress.

Dues by ESI Corporation to Andhra Pradesh

3598. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of dues by ESI Corproation, New Delhi to the Government of Andhra Pradesh is pending since 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to release the fund early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The expenditure on medical care under the ESI Scheme is shared between the ESIC and the State Government in the ratio of 7:1 subject to a ceiling prescribed in this regard. Based on the audit report, the entire contribution of the ESIC as admissible under the ESI Scheme has been released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the years up to 1997-98. The corporation has also made an "on account' advance payment of Rs. 17.34 Crore for 1998-99 and Rs. 21.36 crore for 1999-2000 to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The balance payment, if admissible, under the scheme will be made as and when the audit certificates are received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.